

Assistant Senior Investment Officer

Risk Management and Investment Research



ABOUT WSIB:

The Washington State Investment Board invests and manages entrusted funds in a manner consistent with statute, regulations, Board policies, and the highest standard of professional conduct for the exclusive benefit of the fund beneficiaries.

Why work at WSIB?

We are a small state agency, employing 85 people in the areas of investments, information services, accounting and finance, and office/clerical support. We also employ management and supervisory professionals. Our environment is dynamic, professional, and technologically savvy.

We are located in Olympia, on the southernmost tip of Puget Sound. Olympians enjoy a quality of life enhanced by natural beauty and a mild year-round climate that promotes outdoor activities such as skiing, sailing, fishing, hiking, kayaking, and mountain climbing. Its close proximity to Seattle provides a variety of cultural and culinary experiences, while its residents enjoy a lower cost of living. Within a two-hour drive from Olympia are the Pacific Ocean, the Cascade and Olympic Mountains, and Seattle.

POSITION: Assistant Senior Investment Officer

SALARY: \$123,500-190,000 annually, DOQ

LOCATION: Olympia, Washington

OPENS: August 1, 2014

CLOSES: Open until position is filled

The Washington State Investment Board (WSIB) is seeking a highly-qualified professional to fill an Assistant Senior Investment Officer (ASIO) position in the Risk Management and Asset Allocation unit. This is a full time exempt position reporting to the Senior Investment Officer (SIO.) The ASIO will conduct investment research, assess risks, recommend action, and measure/report results of studies. The ASIO provides information, research, analysis, and makes recommendations on all assets, liabilities, and related risks managed by the WSIB.

PRIMARY AREAS OF FOCUS:

The ASIO plays a pivotal role in the development and advancement of the investment risk assessment and management program. Primary responsibilities include developing research projects to drive the WSIB's fundamental understanding of linkages among portfolio investments and opportunities to facilitate investment risk assessment and management activities at the total portfolio level. Research conclusions will provide strategic guidance for long-term investment direction and risk management.

The ASIO conducts technical, analytical, and strategic research of both existing and proposed investment strategies of the WSIB. Conducts macroeconomic research and exploratory data analysis using a variety of global economic and financial market indicators. This includes presenting concise explanations of complex analyses.

Conducts research on a wide range of topics including fund structure and benchmarks, portfolio strategies, use of external management, portfolio composition, use of derivative products or synthetic strategies, and other investment related topics of interest.

Other activities include evaluation and recommendation of research services and research consultants, selection of data sources, selection of risk models and parameters and use of quantitative models to apply to research questions.

THE STRONGEST CANDIDATE WILL POSSESS:

A strong intellectual curiosity about investments, financial markets and behavior of market participants.

Excellent analytical skills; the ability to process and evaluate large quantities of complex information (e.g., financial, economic, statistical, legal, accounting, policy, and financial market information) to systematically assess and document the merits and risks of the related opportunity.

WSIB OFFERS:

- ❖ Opportunities for training, growth, and advancement.
- ❖ Tuition reimbursement.
- ❖ A comprehensive benefits package, including health, dental, life and long-term disability insurance; vacation, sick, military and civil leave; 11 paid holidays per year.
- ❖ Membership in the Public Employees' Retirement System.
- ❖ Opportunities to participate in the Deferred Compensation and Dependent Care Assistance Programs.

SPECIAL NOTE:

A criminal history records check to include fingerprinting and credit check is required for all finalists. Background investigations are part of the pre-employment selection process and are not a commitment to employment.

The Washington State Investment Board is an equal opportunity employer. Women, racial and ethnic minorities, persons of disability, persons over 40 years of age, and disabled and Vietnam-era veterans are encouraged to apply. Persons of disability needing assistance in the application process, or those needing this announcement in an alternative format, please contact Tammy Wood, Human Resources Director at (360) 956-4615 or via email to twood@sib.wa.gov.

Ability to research, analyze, synthesize, and apply information and results from financial literature and other sources, including the ability to apply quantitative and empirical research to real world issues in the financial management industry.

Working knowledge of capital markets and related activities, events, and trends; comprehensive understanding of macroeconomic principles as they relate to market expectations and forecasts, inflation, asset allocation, and the valuation of portfolio/securities.

General knowledge of all major asset classes and ability to perform "deep dive" research into country, sector, and country/sector relationships to determine risk and return tradeoffs.

Clear communication, collaborative approach and strong interpersonal skills; excellent written communication skills with the ability to present concise explanations of complex analyses.

An advanced degree or certification in a quantitative discipline (i.e., Finance, Economics, Mathematics, or related area) with demonstrated ability to conduct original research in investment/financial field.

Minimum of five years of work experience in investments, finance or related field, including risk management, investment analysis, and portfolio management. Cross-asset class investment experience preferred. CFA designation strongly preferred.

TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS POSITION, PLEASE SUBMIT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

- ❖ A cover letter clearly specifying how you possess the qualifications listed above (no more than two pages in total).
- ❖ A chronological resume.
- ❖ A list of at least three professional references (current and past supervisors preferred). References will not be contacted without the written consent of the applicant.
- ❖ A completed Washington State Employment Application.

You may submit materials by email to HR@sib.wa.gov, or postal service to: Washington State Investment Board, Attention: Human Resources, P.O. Box 40916, Olympia, WA 98504-0916.

Candidate evaluation will be ongoing and the WSIB may make a hiring decision at any time. It will be to the candidate's advantage to submit materials as soon as possible. This recruitment will close when the position is filled.